

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL/SECURITY INFORMATION

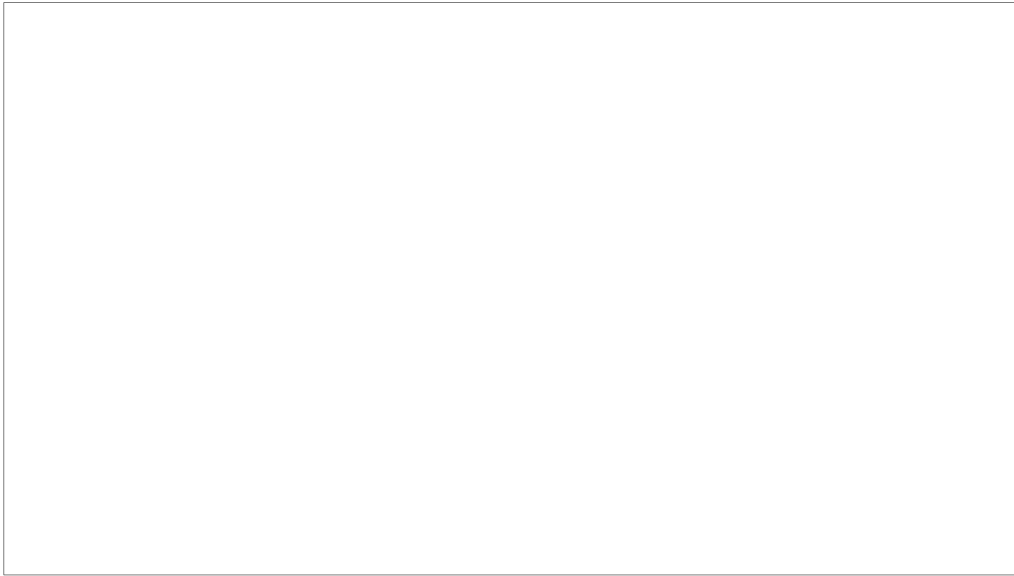
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY USSR  
SUBJECT Evaluation of Nine Soviet Medical Periodicals  
PLACE ACQUIRED -----  
DATE ACQUIRED BY SOURCE

DATE DISTR. 10 DEC 53  
NO. OF PAGES 6 50X1  
NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)  
SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 50X1

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES. WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793 AND 794, OF THE U.S. CODE, AS AMENDED, ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION



50X1

was furnished with copies of the following nine Soviet medical periodicals and asked to comment:

- I. KHIRURGIYA , No 6, June 1953
- II. VESTNIK VENEROLOGII I DERMATOLOGII, No 3, May-June 1953
- III. VOPROSY NEYROKHIRURGII, Vol XVII, No 3, May-June 1953
- IV. VESTNIK RENTGENOLOGII I RADIOLOGII, No 3, May-June 1953
- V. PROBLEMY TUBERKULEZA, No 3, May-June 1953
- VI. VOPROSY PEDIATRII OKHRANY MATERINSTVA I DETSTVA, Vol XXI, No 3, May-June 1953
- VII. ZHURNAL MIKROBIOLOGII EPIDEMIOLOGII I IMMUNOBIOLOGII, No 6, June 1953
- VIII. GIGIYENA I SANITARIYA, No 7, July 1953
- IX. MEDITSINSKAYA PARAZITOLOGIYA I PARAZITARNYYE BOLEZNI, No 3, May-June 1953.7

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL/SECURITY INFORMATION

|       |   |      |   |      |    |              |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-------|---|------|---|------|----|--------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| STATE | X | NANY | X | M/SI | EV | DISTRIBUTION |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ARMY  | X | NAVY | X | AIR  |    |              |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

CONFIDENTIAL/SECURITY INFORMATION

- 2 -

I. KHIRURGIYA

1. Much of this issue is devoted to questions of heart surgery with emphasis on heart wounds and pericarditis.  certain of the other articles were interesting to me including the following: 50X1
2. The first article in this issue is by Prof V S Galkin, a prominent physiologist from Leningrad, who furnishes a short survey of previous theories on the physiological analysis of the action of anesthesia. He criticizes all previously proposed theories on this subject and attempts to defend his own which, at least as far as I am concerned, is not readily understandable. In my opinion his analysis is definitely not as satisfactory a solution as previous efforts by other scientists in this field.
3. On pages 44 to 47 is a short article summarizing 15 articles by different scientists in the field of heart surgery. Aside from the subject matter discussed, this form of publication is interesting to me. It would appear that nowadays Soviet scientific authors can publish their articles only after a great deal of scrutiny by editors. Prior to World War II no particular limitation was imposed on Soviet medical authors provided their articles were politically innocent and of medical interest. It seems, however, that nowadays the editors place much more emphasis on ideological aspects than before and that actually articles on subjects which are in line with official Communist medical thinking are requested by editors from prospective authors.
4. On pages 84 to 91 is a survey of the Fifth Plenum of the All-Union Scientific Society of Surgeons held in December 1952. The first topic under discussion was surgical anesthesia. Prof V I Struchkov furnished statistics covering almost 700,000 operations. It is interesting to note that in keeping with contemporary Soviet practice, local anesthesia was used in 72 per cent of these operations. Ether was used in four per cent; spinal, in two per cent; peridural, in only 0.09 per cent; intravenous, in only 0.54 per cent, in spite of the extravagant Soviet claims in this field; and intratracheal, in only 0.04 per cent. It was also interesting to me that 30 per cent of severe operations for ileus reported on and 66 per cent of the intrathoracic operations were performed under local anesthesia. The incidence of death reported was as follows: local anesthesia; zero per cent; ether, 0.02 per cent; intratracheal, 2.5 per cent; intravenous, one per cent; spinal, 1.3 per cent; and peridural, 2.2 per cent. Unfortunately, information on the dates covering these operations, how many surgeons performed them and whether they were major or minor operations is not furnished by the author. The prominent neurosurgeon, B A Petrov reported that he used spinal anesthesia in about 21,000 operations during the period 1940-51, and that death attributable to anesthesia occurred in only one out of 6,000 cases. This statement, however, is obviously not too valuable since it is not always easy to decide in neurosurgical cases whether death resulted from the anesthesia or from other causes. Prof V S Levit reported on the use of peridural anesthesia. Apparently this kind of anesthesia became known in the USSR in 1947 and many other surgeons discussed its use in the meeting. The second principal topic under discussion at the meeting was anesthesia by intratracheal intubation. This subject was discussed very thoroughly by Prof A N Bekulev, apparently a young and promising surgeon from Moscow, and by Prof P A Kupriyanov. Another interesting point I noted from the report on this meeting is that curare is used in the USSR as an anesthetic.
5. On pages 91 to 95 is a description of the proceedings of a meeting of the Surgical Society of Moscow held in November 1952. It contains a short report and demonstration of a patient who was operated on for the purpose of installing an artificial intrathoracic esophagus. This, of course, is a very delicate operation and may be indicative of the surgical skill of at least some Soviet surgeons.

CONFIDENTIAL/SECURITY INFORMATION

## CONFIDENTIAL/SECURITY INFORMATION

- 3 -

## II. VESTNIK VENEROLOGII I DERMATOLOGII,

6. A number of interesting methods of treatment are presented in this issue of this publication. I was particularly interested in the following.
7. On page six I N Agapkin reports good results in the treatment of tuberculous lupus (*lupus vulgaris*) with streptomycin. Twenty-seven patients were treated. Complete recovery occurred in 11 cases and marked improvement in 13 others following this treatment.
8. On page 10 G Ya Sharapova reported good results in the treatment of various skin diseases with riboflavin.
9. On page 18 is a very specialized article by B S Pankov concerned with the amino acid content of sweat. This is the first Soviet work in this field that I remember seeing.
10. On page 24 is a very peculiar article by Prof V A Rakhmanov and Docent A M Levin, concerned with the education in the USSR of residents (clinical ordinators) in dermatology and venerology. It is impossible for me to furnish a short summary here but the article is illustrative of the conditions encountered in the medical profession in the USSR and the servility required of the junior members of the profession.
11. On page 30 is a report by G I Popov on the treatment of primary syphilis with penicillin combined with pyretotherapy. According to the author, 134 patients were treated with very good results and no relapses. On pages 47 and 50 are two articles by E N Turanova and I D Kuznetsov respectively concerned with the treatment of gonorrhea in both men and women with penicillin. Ninety-five per cent recovery is reported which corresponds probably to experience in the US.
12. I noted with interest on page 61 a review of the 27th Volume of the work entitled OPYTA SOVETSKOY MEDITSINY V VELIKOY OTECHESTVENNOY VOYNE 1941-45 GG. The series deals with Soviet medical experience accumulated during World War II and if available in the West should be most interesting.

## III. VOPROSY NEYROKHIRURGII

13. Neurosurgery is, of course, a long way from my special field but I found the following two articles interesting.
14. On page three A A Arendt reports on the results he obtained in the use of continuous drainage of the ventricles of the brain in cases of brain tumor. I was very impressed by this article which describes what appears to be a very valuable supportive treatment.
15. On page 37 is an extremely interesting special article by M V Putsillo on the anatomy of the frontal lobe of the brain which has surprisingly good illustrations for a Soviet publication.

## IV. VESTNIK RENTGENOLOGII I RADIOLOGII

16. Again this subject is somewhat out of my field. This publication has many special articles concerned with subjects as the mechanism of x-ray therapy, the tomography of the thorax, chronic gastritis, gastric volvulus and chronic leukemias. The x-ray photographs furnished as illustrations to the articles are of the "Night in Madrid" variety, usually encountered in Soviet publications, that is of very poor quality compared with US equivalents. I did find the following specific articles of particular interest.

CONFIDENTIAL/SECURITY INFORMATION

CONFIDENTIAL/SECURITY INFORMATION

- 4 -

17. On page 54, Prof A V Kozlova reports on the results of x-ray and radio therapy in cases of metastasis of malignant tumors. Statistics are furnished on the various kinds of cancer treated. Out of 107 patients who were operated on, 26 relapses were observed. On page 58 the results of treatment were reported. Metastases disappeared in 69 patients. Relapses occurred in 17 cases and no change was noted in 32 cases. The author considers radio-surgical treatment the most effective.
18. On page 63, Prof Ya I Geynisman reports a modification of the conventional method of pneumo-encephalographic examination. He believes that the medical complications arising from this type of examination are minimal, if warm sterile air is used. I believe normal US practice is merely to use regular air.

V. PROBLEMY TUBERKULEZA

19. This issue starts with an obituary of Prof T P Krasnobayev who died in October 1952 at the age of 87. He was a fine old gentleman and a distinguished physician who specialized in TB in children. It is perhaps interesting that this issue of this publication is dedicated to his memory and the obituary praises him most highly in spite of the fact that in the past he was persecuted for being anti-Communist.
20. The first article in this issue is by Prof Z Yu Rol'ye. I am not sure but I believe this man is French by birth and came to the USSR some time ago from French Switzerland. Originally his name was probably Roller. If I am right, the opinions of this author are reliable. He recommends combined therapy in TB of bones, i.e. residence in a sanitarium in the Crimea, heliotherapy together with streptomycin and a Soviet drug called "PASK" which is not otherwise identified.
21. On page 48 Prof I S Kolesnikov recommends pneumectomy in certain cases of TB. Although I am not very familiar with US literature in this field this form of treatment was new to me.
22. On page 58 N M Amosov, a young physician from Bryansk reports that the following operations were performed on 100 TB cases in his city: pneumectomy 48, lobectomy 52. Post operative complications occurred in 10 cases, death in three and relapses in six. The author furnishes very detailed statistics on all patients. Apparently pneumectomy was first used in Bryansk in 1949.
23. On page 67 is an article by Prof. N V Antelava  He was a very charming gentleman, a native of Tbilisi, Georgia, who was persecuted for his political convictions. In his article he, like Amosov, states that pneumectomy is replacing the formerly popular thoracoplasty in the treatment of TB.
24. On page 73, Prof F A Mikhaylov reports on the use of the drug "ftivazid" in cases of TB. Although this drug is not identified it may be similar to the drug emiton in use in the US. In any case the author believes it is a good symptomatic drug.

50X1

VI. VOPROSY PEDIATRII OKHRANY MATERINSTVA I DETSTVA

25. Aside from the "anti-imperialist" editorial which starts it, this issue is devoted chiefly to scarlet fever. I should point out that formerly scarlet fever was a much more serious disease in the USSR and other Eastern countries than in the West. It is interesting that many reports now show that the disease no longer has as severe a course as formerly. The formerly fairly common so-called toxic forms of the disease which usually resulted in death are no longer as frequently encountered.

CONFIDENTIAL/SECURITY INFORMATION

CONFIDENTIAL/SECURITY INFORMATION

- 5 -

Similarly the number of complications resulting from the disease are not as considerable as before. According to pre-World War II Soviet medical practice, a scarlet fever patient was usually confined to bed or in a hospital for six weeks. Now [1953], however, these patients are released in 21 to 23 days in 80 to 90 per cent of the cases. In severe cases, treatment recommended includes blood transfusion and penicillin. Attempts apparently have been made by the Soviets to use transfusions of immunized blood but with only fair results.

26. This issue also includes some material on other common childhood diseases. On page 33 for example A L Knirel' emphasizes the point that measles can be followed by TB. On page 38 M Ye Vinogradova reports that chicken pox can be treated with ultraviolet radiation with good results. On page 42 F I Ratnikov recommends that whooping cough should be treated with tissue transplantation as originally recommended by Filatov. The editors of the publication, however, remark that Ratnikov's findings are not very suggestive and should be examined carefully.

50X1

27. On page 56 is a very interesting article by A L Libov who furnishes a survey of treatment of various diseases with anti-biotics. In general, it is my impression that his conclusions are very similar to those reported recently in the US and it is possible that he may have known of recent US literature in this field. Published in the article is a table listing the anti-biotics in use in the USSR. They include the following (spellings are transliterated Russian, not US):

auriomitsin and terramitsin - These must have started in use in the USSR within the last year because I have not seen earlier references to their use in clinical practice.

neomitsin - This is a new variety and I do not know its US equivalent.

levomitsetin - This is the equivalent of US chloromycetin.

al'bomitsin - This is a kind of chloromycetin recommended for children.

sintomitsin - This is also similar to chloromycetin but probably not as valuable since it is recommended for use in combination with auriomitsin or streptomitsin.

Bacitracin is mentioned but apparently it is not very popular in the USSR.

#### VII. ZHURNAL MIKROBIOLOGII EPIDEMIOLOGII I IMMUNOBIOLOGII

28. A large portion of this issue is devoted to a symposium on brucellosis. Vaccination is recommended as prophylactic agent and biomycin as a therapeutic agent. This incidentally is the first reference to this antibiotic that I have encountered and I do not know what it is. There are also many articles on the diagnosis prevention and general medical picture of brucellosis.
29. There are several articles on the treatment of tularemia, and streptomycin is apparently found to be as effective in the treatment in the USSR as it is in the US. Typhus is discussed and I got the impression from reading the material in this publication that the disease is not as yet controlled in the USSR.
30. I was interested to read of a case of hydrophobia in a pregnant woman in 1940 near Tashkent. The patient was vaccinated about two days after being bitten but discontinued the treatment and three months later developed the clinical picture of hydrophobia. She went into labor and the baby was born perfectly healthy without complications. The mother was transferred to a mental hospital and died in two days. This case is interesting only

CONFIDENTIAL/SECURITY INFORMATION

CONFIDENTIAL/SECURITY INFORMATION

- 6 -

because it is unusual. Hydrophobia is by no means a common disease in the USSR

50X1

## VIII. GIGIYENA I SANITARIYA

31. Hygiene and sanitation are of course far removed from my medical field. I was interested, however, to read in this magazine a review of a book entitled KORABEL'NAYA GIGIYENA by K K Bogolyubov published in 1951 by Izd. Voenno-Morskoy Meditsinskoy Akademii. This book deals with hygiene aboard warships and if available in the West probably would be very interesting.

## IX. MEDITSINSKAYA PARAZITOLOGIYA I PARAZITARNYYE BOLEZNI

32. This issue contains a symposium on malaria with particular emphasis on the epidemic point of view. I got the impression based on the reported incidence of the disease all over the country that malaria is still not controlled in the USSR. I was interested to see that not only common or tertian malaria but also tropical malaria is observable in various parts of European USSR.
33. Apparently DDT is in general use in the USSR and this publication contains several special articles on the effects of DDT on various insects. The Soviets also apparently have another agent of this variety which they call in the publication G Kh Ts G [ГХЦГ] I am unable to identify this agent. I believe it is used for sanitizing ponds.
34. On page 260 a very peculiar method of treatment for ascariasis is presented. According to this treatment oxygen is introduced into the intestine with a gastric tube. Admittedly I am not up to date on the treatment for ascariasis but this technique was certainly new to me. Soviet scientist N P Kravets claimed success in 93 per cent of his cases but other Soviet scientists in only 74 per cent.

-end-

640.02 N

CONFIDENTIAL/SECURITY INFORMATION